



# ANNUAL REPORT

on the

## HEALTH OF THE DISTRICT

for the Year 1951

by

M. L. SUTCLIFFE, T.D., D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH





# BOROUGH OF TEWKESBURY

*To the Mayor,  
Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Tewkesbury*

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report on the Hygiene Conditions and Vital Statistics of the Borough for the year 1951.

It includes the report of the Sanitary Inspector and is compiled to conform with Articles 6 (3) and 17 (5) of the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935, and it incorporates the requirements of the Ministry of Health Circular 42/51 dated 10th December, 1951.

In accordance with para. 14 of the above circular the distribution of this report is a wide one and includes :—

The Ministry of Health

The County Medical Officer of Health

The Ministry of Food

The Ministry of Housing and Local Government

The Ministry of Labour and National Service.

The general health of the Borough has been good during the year and there are several outstandingly satisfactory health statistics. The birth rate is considerably above that for England and Wales, while the death rate is lower. The infantile mortality rate, often considered to be a criterion of the healthiness of living conditions, is only 9.6 compared with 29.6 for England and Wales; this is a record low figure for the Borough. Other satisfactory features are that there have been no deaths of mothers in child-birth since 1944, no tuberculosis deaths, and infectious disease notifications were very low. Environmental health conditions are dealt with in detail in the report, and the erection of 69 houses was very satisfactory being an increase of 28 on the previous year.

I thank the Mayor, the Chairman of the Public Health Committee and Members of the Council for their co-operation, and also the Council's Officials for their assistance, mentioning especially the Surveyor. Finally I should like to add that this report has become more a report of the Public Health Department than of the Medical Officer of Health, and it may now be considered a joint report by myself and the Sanitary Inspector whose work has been invaluable.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

MAURICE L. SUTCLIFFE,

June 1952.

*Medical Officer of Health.*

## **PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF OF THE AUTHORITY**

M. L. SUTCLIFFE, T.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.P.M., Medical Officer of Health. Medical Officer of Health to the Tewkesbury Borough, Gloucester Rural and Newent Rural Joint M.O.H. Committee, and County Divisional Medical Officer of Health for No. 5 Division (Gloucester Area Health Sub-Committee).

J. STIRLING, C.R.S.A. (Scotland), M.S.I.A., Sanitary Inspector, Inspector of Meat and other Foods and Inspector under the Petroleum (Consolidation) Acts. (Resigned 31.3.51).

J. H. RHODES, M.R.SAN.I., M.S.I.A., Sanitary Inspector, Inspector of Meat and other Foods and Inspector under the Petroleum (Consolidation) Acts. (Appointed 23.4.51).

### **Adoptive Legislation in force in the Borough**

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933 (Section 1) adopted 1st January, 1934.

Public Health Act 1936 (Section 75) – Provision of Regulation Dustbins – adopted 21st March, 1938.

### **Bye-Laws**

Tents, Vans, Sheds and similar structures – adopted 1st November, 1938.

Building Bye-Laws – adopted 18th March, 1940.

Handling, etc., and Sale of Food in the Open Air – (confirmed by the Minister of Food and coming into operation on 21st April, 1952).



## VITAL STATISTICS

These statistics give particulars as to the births and deaths in the Borough, together with certain rates which are compared, where possible, with those for England and Wales.

A detailed list of the causes of death will be found in Table 28.

**Table 1                      Infantile Births and Deaths**

	Legitimate			Illegitimate			Com- bined Total
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	
Live Births ...	49	48	97	7	—	7	104
Still Births ...	1	1	2	—	—	—	2
Infant Deaths :							
(a) 0-4 weeks	—	—	—	—	—	—	} 1
(b) 4 weeks-1 yr.	—	1	1	—	—	—	

**Table 2                      Deaths**

	Male	Female	Total
Total Deaths ...	32	33	65

**Table 3                      Birth and Death Rates**

	Borough of Tewkesbury	England and Wales
Crude Live Birth Rate per 1,000 pop'n	19.8	} 15.5
*Corrected Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population ...	19.99	
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total births	18.8	22.9
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 population	12.4	} 12.5
*Corrected „ „ „ „	10.56	
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year per 1,000 live births ...	9.6	29.6
Death Rate of Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate live births ...	10.3	} not available
Death Rate of Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate live births ...	Nil	
Death Rate from Puerperal Causes per 1,000 total births ...	Nil	0.79

\*NOTE.—The Corrected Birth and Death Rates are obtained by multiplying the Crude Rates by the factors 1.01 and 0.85 respectively. These factors are supplied by the Registrar-General and serve to make the Crude Rates for the District comparable with the Rates for the country as a whole, or with the Rates of any other area, whose Rates have been similarly modified.

## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE BOROUGH

Area (in acres) 2,651 (including 96 acres of water).

Population (Registrar-General's estimate of Home Population mid-1951) 5,233.

Number of inhabited houses (December 31st, 1951) according to rate books 1,692.

Sum represented by a penny rate £128 (gross).

### Social Conditions and Chief Industries

The Borough of Tewkesbury is small but ancient, and is known quite disproportionately to its size. This is by reason of its historic and architectural interest, and also because it is on the main trunk road from the north and midlands to the south-west. As a result, a large number of tourists and trippers visit it or pass through it during the season. The Borough has the advantage of excellent hotels, one of which is mentioned in Charles Dickens' "Pickwick Papers," and it also has many good restaurants and cafés. Municipal amenities include two caravan and camping sites, tennis courts and a putting green.

Industries in the town are well varied; which of course reduces the chance of mass unemployment. They include a large and very conspicuous flour mill, boat-building yards, light engineering and building contracting, but the biggest employer of labour is the hotel and catering trade. In addition, a number of residents in the Borough work in factories in the Gloucester/Cheltenham area and at the R.A.O.C. Depot at Ashchurch.

### Unemployment

The following information was kindly given by Mr. B. W. Wheeler, the Manager of the local Employment Exchange:—

#### 1. UNEMPLOYMENT

This has remained consistently low throughout the year 1951. The monthly average was 11.7 for males and 8.6 for females. The highest figure for males being 19 in November, and for females 17 in January.

In most cases, unemployment is of short duration, and is usually due to men and women wishing to change their employment.

#### 2. EMPLOYMENT

The general employment position remains highly satisfactory throughout the Employment Exchange Area, and there is every reason to believe that this state of affairs will continue. Demands for labour far exceed the supply, and the numbers in employment show an increase.

# GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE BOROUGH

## Laboratory Facilities

The following facilities are available for the Borough.

The laboratory, organised by the Medical Research Council, at the Gloucester Royal Hospital, carries out examinations of pathological specimens, and milk and ice cream samples. (There is no charge for this work).

Water and sewage analyses, taken by this Department, are carried out by Messrs. Ellis & Turner, Public Analysts, Gloucester, the charges from 20th September, 1951, being as follows :—

### WATER

Full analysis	-	-	£2 10s. 0d.
Bacteriological examination	-	-	£1 1s. 0d.
Chemical analysis	-	-	£1 11s. 6d.

### SEWAGE OR SEWAGE EFFLUENT

Full analysis	-	-	£3 3s. 0d.
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Water analyses in respect of the Cheltenham and Gloucester Joint Water Board's Works are carried out by the Resident Chemist.

## Hospitals

The Council have no responsibility for arranging hospital treatment, except in connection with the National Assistance Act of 1948 (Q.V.).

Infectious disease cases are admitted either to Gloucester City Isolation Hospital at Over (Gloucester, Stroud and Forest Hospital Management Committee) or to Delancy Hospital, Cheltenham (Cheltenham Hospital Group Management Committee).

## Ambulance Facilities

There are two ambulances at the Ambulance Station in Mill Street with four full-time drivers. This service is under the administration of the County Council.

## Nursing in the Home

The two District Nurses who undertake midwifery and general nursing in the Borough and the Parishes of Ashchurch, Tredington and Twynning work under the County Health Committee, while the local Voluntary Association supervises secretarial and nurses welfare matters.



## **Home Help Service**

This service is administered by the Area Health Committee of the County Council. It has many uses, not the least of which is that it often enables the family to keep together, by providing just the extra domestic help needed.

The main types of disability where this assistance is given, are Maternity, General Sickness, Tuberculosis, Chronic Illness and Old Age.

In December 1951, 22 cases were being cared for and there were 14 part-time Home Helps in the District.

## **Tewkesbury Old People's Welfare Committee**

This voluntary organisation is doing very good work for the old people in the Borough. Its activities include a club, home and hospital visiting, provision of 'meals on wheels' to the home, a chiropody scheme and, last but not least, advice in difficulties.



## CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

### 1. CHILD WELFARE CENTRE

This centre is under the general administration of the Area Health Sub-Committee of the County Council which includes members of this Council. It is held weekly in the Town Hall and is run by a Voluntary Committee.

The valuable work done at this Centre is shewn in Table 4 and very great thanks are due to the Voluntary Committee and helpers.

**Table 4**

No. of Sessions	No. of New Children in 1951		No. of Children on Register at end of year		Total No. Attendances during year	
	Under 1	Over 1	Under 1	Over 1	Under 1	Over 1
49	78	20	88	30	1109	781

### 2. TEWKESBURY CLINIC. Municipal Offices

This clinic opens as follows :-

Minor Ailments Clinic.	Daily during term (a doctor attends one Thursday a month).
Orthopedic Clinic.	Weekly on Thursdays attended by an orthopedic nurse.
Ante-natal Clinic.	Weekly on Wednesday afternoons.
Speech Therapy Clinic.	Weekly on Tuesday afternoons.

### TEWKESBURY HOSPITAL

Ophthalmic and Ear, Nose and Throat clinics are held approximately fortnightly.

Orthopedic Clinic. A specialist visits quarterly or as required

Chest Clinic. The Chest specialist attends fortnightly or as required.

## MORTUARIES

The Tewkesbury Hospital Mortuary is used, £1 5s. 0d. being charged for each case.

During the war arrangements were made for a room in the cemetery building to be available in case of emergency. This accommodation was never used and would need considerable work doing on it to make it satisfactory, as at present there is no proper drainage or electric light.

# SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

## Water Supplies

### MAIN SUPPLIES

Water is supplied in bulk to the Corporation by the Cheltenham and Gloucester Joint Water Board whose purification works lie within the Borough.

The process of purification of the water which is drawn from the River Severn consists of sedimentation with alum, rapid sand filtration and chloramination. (Pre-treatment and terminal treatment). There is occasionally an excess of chlorine in the water and this is difficult to avoid as there is variable pollution of the river above the Borough from where the untreated supplies are drawn. The variability of the pollution is clearly indicated by the fact that the dosage of terminal chlorination has to be varied, according to the condition of the river water, from 0.3 parts per million to 0.7 parts per million. Work is in hand for the provision of a storage reservoir from which the Borough is to be supplied, but unfortunately there has been great delay in the delivery of the necessary pumping plant and it is not expected that the new reservoir will be in use until the middle of 1952.

Regular analyses, both chemical and bacteriological, are carried out and the results shown in Table 5 were supplied by the courtesy of the Resident Chemist (J. Henderson, Esq., B.Sc., F.R.I.C.).

**Table 5**

SUPPLY		Bacteriological Analyses		Chemical Analyses	
		Satis.	Unsatis.	Satis.	Unsatis.
Raw river water	...	—	87	—	677
Treated river water	...	276	—	975	—
Domestic	...	472	—	547	—

### Main Water Supplies in the Borough

In accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health Table 6 shows the number of houses and population served on the 31st December, 1951.

**Table 6**

No. of houses with main supply in house (estimated)	Pop.	No. of Houses served by stand pipes (estimated)	Pop.
1342	4193	334	1044

New connections made to public mains during the year – 69.

Extensions of mains during the year – Nil.

## Well Supplies

During the year, one house (10 East Street) previously dependent on well supplies was connected to the mains, and Table 7 shows the houses in the Borough without main water.

**Table 7**

Address			Water Supply	No. of houses	Population served
106 Church Street	...	...	Business Premises only		
1 Trinity Walk	...	...	Well	1	3
Park Farm Cottages	...	...	"	2	8
Rayer's Hill Cottages	...	...	"	1	3
Tewkesbury Park	...	...	"	2	8
The Mythe Hook	...	...	River	3	8
Upper Lode Locks	...	...	"	5	18
Avon Lock Cottage	...	...	"	1	2
Kennel's Cottage	...	...	"	1	5
Total	...	...		16	55

At the latter seven addresses no main supplies are at present available and even with some of the others the cost would be excessive and considerably above the £20 which is all the Council can insist on an owner expending in connecting up to main supplies. (Section 138, Public Health Act, 1936).

The fact that only 16 houses out of 1,692 in the Borough are without main water is not a serious matter.



# **SEWAGE DISPOSAL AND REFUSE COLLECTION**

## **Sewerage**

Since the last Annual Report the Ministry of Housing and Local Government have intimated that the proposed new sewers and sewage works scheme as presented to them may proceed, but have recommended that two sections be deferred. These are :—

1. The sewer designed to deal with effluent from the proposed housing development on the Mitton Estate. This particular section, it is agreed, is not an urgent matter and can be proceeded with when the plans for this area are more definite.
2. The relief sewer to be reconsidered when the full effects of the new pumping station can be ascertained under actual working conditions.

Ministerial approval has been received to place orders for the pumps, electrical gear and cast iron pipes and this has been done. The Consulting Engineers are hoping to be able to advertise for tenders for the scheme during the early part of 1952.

## **Refuse Collection**

During the year the collection of refuse has been maintained. Controlled tipping was carried out at the Swilgate during the winter and spring, and at the Walton Cardiff tip during the summer months. The collection of salvage has been continued and several tons of waste paper, etc., were sold during the year for £622.

## **Refuse Receptacles**

It is unfortunate that the manufacture of galvanised iron refuse bins has been prohibited, and the durability of the bins at present on sale is very poor. As a result the standard of householders refuse receptacles has not improved.

## **Latrine Accommodation**

Formal notices were served in respect of three dwelling-houses for the replacement of hopper closets by modern water-closets. Many of the older properties in the town are still served by these insanitary closets but the expense of replacement might not be justified.

## **Public Lavatories**

The proposed new lavatories in Gander Lane are still under consideration, owing to the difficulty of obtaining a suitable site.

## **Swimming Baths and Pools**

No swimming facilities exist in the Borough although many people continue to use the Rivers Severn and Avon. This is not advisable owing to the pollution of these two rivers. There is no likelihood in the near future of any authority for the Council to provide public swimming baths.

## **Rivers and Streams**

Duties in connection with pollution are carried out by the River Severn Board, an Authority created under the River Boards Act 1948. With the provision of the new Borough sewage works the pollution of the river below the town will be considerably reduced.

## SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT

A summary of the work carried out by the Public Health Department is tabulated below :

**Table 8**

	No. of Visits	Notices Served		Defects Remedied after Notice	
		Informal	Formal	Informal	Formal
Dwelling Houses ...	110	30	3	27	3
Milk and Dairies ...	—	—	—	—	—
Factories, etc. ...	27	9	—	9	—
Bakehouses ...	9	3	—	3	—
Food Premises ...	73	8	1	8	—
Slaughterhouses ...	None in use since 1939				
Water Supplies ...	—	—	—	—	—
Drainage and Sewerage...	46	17	—	16	—
Infectious Disease ...	23 (Disinfection carried out as required)				
Pests ...	68	3	—	3	—
Miscellaneous ...	160	8	—	8	—
Totals ...	516	78	4	74	3

### Shops Act 1950

The Council's part-time Inspector for the administration of this Act with regard to closing time reports that no serious infringements have taken place and legal action was not necessary. This Department is concerned with Section 38 dealing with hygiene arrangements, etc , for shop employees.

### Offensive Trades

Three Rag and Bone Dealers operate in the Back of Avon, St. Mary's Lane and in Gander Lane. No complaints have been received.

### Rag Flock and other Filling Materials Act 1951

There is no trade requiring any action under this Act in the Borough.

### Petroleum (Consolidation) Acts 1928-1936

These Acts are administered by the Sanitary Inspector. Fifteen licences were issued for the storage of petrol. Inspections were carried out and arrangements were found to be generally satisfactory.



## Canal Boats Acts and Regulations 1877-1925

No action has been necessary during the year.

### Smoke Abatement

A complaint was received of smoke nuisance from British Railway locomotives at the Tewkesbury Goods yard. The matter was discussed by the Sanitary Inspector with the Gloucester Locomotive Shed Master who took the matter up with the staff concerned.

### Common Lodging Houses

The last Common Lodging House in the Borough was closed in 1939.

### Disinfestation (Bed Bugs, Fleas, etc.)

During the year 12 infestations were reported and dealt with. Houses from which tenants were re-housed into Council Houses were treated where necessary.

## RODENT CONTROL

### Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949

The arrangement whereby the services of a rodent operator are shared with Cheltenham Rural District Council has worked very well throughout the year. Details are as set out in my Annual Report for 1950.

The Prevention of Damage by Pests (Application to Shipping) Order 1951 came into force on the 1st October. This Order applies the provisions of the Act, with appropriate modifications, to shipping.

The following is a summary of the work carried out in the Borough :-

**Table 9**

Property				Inspections	Treatments
Private Dwellings	...	...		26	17
Council Houses and Hutments	...	...		10	5
Farms	...	...	...	20	12
Business Premises	...	...	...	58	56
Sewage Works	...	...	...	8	6
Refuse Tips	...	...	...	17	17
Surveys	...	...	...	3	—
Total				142	113

In addition to the above, two maintenance treatments of the sewers in the district were carried out in May and October.

## Details of work carried out on Refuse Tips and Sewage Works

**Table 10**

Property		Action Taken	Result
Gander Lane Tip	...	Pre-baited and poisoned Nine treatments	Satisfactory
Walton Cardiff Tip	...	Pre-baited and poisoned Eight treatments	Satisfactory
Sewage Works	...	Pre-baited and poisoned Six treatments	Satisfactory

The costs of this service for private owners are recovered as follows :-

**PRIVATE DWELLINGS.** A small charge is made (nil in necessitous cases) and the balance is subject to a 50% grant from the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

**BUSINESS PREMISES  
AND FARMS.** The Council has 10 contracts with farms and business firms; other premises can obtain treatment on payment of full cost.

The cost to the Council of treating its sewers, refuse tips, etc., is subject to a 50% grant from the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

### CAMPING SITES

The Council own one large camping site in Pageant Meadow; this is used mainly during August and most of the campers live under canvas, there being room for about 150 tents without any congestion. Elsan lavatories, main water stand pipes and refuse bins are provided. The Council also owns a caravan site with accommodation for 30 to 40 caravans adjacent to the Municipal car park and public baths and lavatories.

Both the above sites serve a very great need and are publicised in the AA Camping Guide. Tributes to them have been paid by the British Caravaners Club.

One private camping site is licensed by the Council, the maximum number of about 12 caravans of a good type use it at any one time. Facilities are provided, and alterations are in hand for improving the sewage disposal system.

There are 4 individual caravans licensed in the Borough.

## HOUSING

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(a)	By the Local Authority		
	(i) Temporary prefabricated	...	Nil
	(ii) Permanent Non-traditional	...	39
	(iii) Permanent Traditional	...	10
(b)	By other Local Authorities	...	0
(c)	Tewkesbury Housing Society	...	8
(d)	Private Enterprise	...	12
			<hr/>
		TOTAL	69

Progress of new housing in the Borough has been maintained and, in addition to the 69 erected, the following were in course of construction at 31st December, 1951:—

2 Old Persons Dwellings	Both near completion
8 Gregory Flats	All roofed
16 Cornish Unit Houses	Up to first floor level
4 Private Traditional Houses	

### Programme for 1952:

- |      |   |  |
|------|---|--|
| (i)  | Completion of 30 houses as detailed above |  |
| (ii) | Erection of houses as follows:-           |  |
|      | Traditional                               | 22 (16 three-bedroom<br>6 two-bedroom)                 |
|      | Non- Traditional                          | 9 (Special allocation for<br>re-housing camp dwellers) |
|      | Tewkesbury Housing Society                | 4  |
|      | Private Licences                          | 6  |
|      |   | <hr/>  |
|      | TOTAL                                     | 41   |

The total number of dwellings erected by the Council up to 31st December, 1951, under the various Housing Acts is 460 (well over a quarter of the total number of houses in the Borough). In addition the Council own or have requisitioned the following:—

Requisitioned Properties	4 houses, 16 flats and 9 huts
Old Corporation Houses	21
Holm Cottages	12
Lock-up Shops	5



### 1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year

(a)	(i)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... ..	66
	(ii)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	110
(b)	(i)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (a) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932, etc.	Nil
	(ii)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	Nil
(c)		Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for unfit for human habitation. (This number is in addition to those previously reported) ...	7
(d)		Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... ..	33

### 2. Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices

(a)		Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ... ..	27
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### 3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year

(a)		Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 ... ..	Nil
(b)		Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—	
	(i)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... ..	3
	(ii)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices	
	(a)	By Owners ... ..	3
	(b)	By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil
(c)		Proceedings under the Public Health Act, 1936, Section 138 and the Water Act, 1945, Section 30	
	(i)	Number of houses in which a main water supply was provided after service of formal notices	
	(a)	By Owners ... ..	Nil
	(b)	By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil
(d)		Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
	(i)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... ..	4
	(ii)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Order ... ..	Nil

#### 4. Housing Act, 1936 - Part IV - Overcrowding

Until a new overcrowding survey is carried out, it is impossible to assess the amount of overcrowding in the Borough, but there is little doubt that it has decreased slightly in the last few years.

#### National Assistance Act 1948 (Section 47)

#### National Assistance (Amendment) Act 1951

During the year authority was given by the Council to the Medical Officer of Health to take action when necessary under Section 1 of the National Assistance (Amendment) Act 1951.

Formal action involving the use of both Acts was necessary in one instance, the case being neglected and unable to care for herself. The Court ordered detention in Holm Hospital, Tewkesbury, for the maximum period of 3 months and during this period, the patient settled down happily in hospital and therefore no further Court Order was requested.

It is felt that the Amending Act of 1951 is very useful by making immediate removal to Hospital possible in cases urgently needing care and attention.

### REPORT ON RE-HOUSING PROGRESS

#### by the Housing Manager

The number of families re-housed during the year was 64, of which 5 were re-housed in requisitioned property and the rest in new houses or houses become vacant.

In addition, 35 transfers were made to secure the best use of available accommodation.

One hut at Southwick Park was vacated and demolished during the year leaving a total of 8 at Mythe Camp and 1 at Southwick Park.

The rate of new building is barely sufficient to cover the increase in the waiting list, while the property held on requisition will sooner or later have to be handed back to the owners.

The number and analysis of applicants as at the 31st, December, 1951, is set out below. There was a net increase of 9 applications over the previous year.

O.A.Ps.	1 Bed	2 Bed	3 Bed	4 Bed & over	Total
30	47	241	66	19	403
7.4%	11.7%	59.8%	16.4%	4.7%	100%

Total number of tenancies administered by the Housing Department 525.

F. R. RAYNER,  
*Housing Manager.*

# INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

## Milk Supplies

The supervision of dairy farm premises and milk production is generally the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. The Council's powers under Regulation 20 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949 with regard to the spread of infectious disease by milk have not had to be invoked during the year.

The Council is responsible for registration and licences as shown in Tables 11 and 12, and for retail milk sampling as shown in Table 13.

**Table 11 Issue of Licences for Milk Dealers**

Classification of Milk	Dealers' Licences	Supplementary Licences
Accredited ...	—	—
Tuberculin Tested ...	—	—
Pasteurised ...	—	2
Sterilised ...	—	—
Non-designated ...	—	—

NOTE – Supplementary Licences are issued to dealers who distribute milk from premises situated outside the District.

**Table 12 Milk Registrations**

No. of Milk Distributors Registered	...	1
No. Dairy Premises Registered	...	1

**Table 13 Retail Milk Sampling**

Nature of Test	Result of Examination	
	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Coliform or Plate Count (cleanliness)	3	—
Methylene Blue (keeping quality) ...	2	—
Biological (presence of T.B., etc.) ...	—	—
Phosphatase (effic. of pasteurisation)	1	—

## Anthrax Order 1938

No case was notified during the year.

## Foot and Mouth Disease

No case occurred during the year, although there were a considerable number of cases in the Eastern Counties.

## Swine Fever Order 1938

No case was notified during the year.



## MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

There have been no registered slaughterhouses in the Borough since 1939 and centralised slaughtering is carried out in Cheltenham Abattoir, all carcasses being inspected by Cheltenham Corporation Sanitary Inspectors.

### Slaughter of Home-Fattened Pigs

Forty-six pigs were slaughtered for home consumption. No requests were made for inspection of the carcasses by the Sanitary Inspector.

### Public Health (Meat) Regulations 1924

#### Transport and Handling of Meat

No complaints were received as to the handling during the year and a special-purpose lorry in use was found to be satisfactory by the Sanitary Inspector.

## FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1938

Notification is made to this Department when hotels, shops or individuals have any food which is suspected of being unsound. The following table shows the articles dealt with as unfit for human consumption:—

**Table 14**

Article				Non-Preserved	Preserved (tinned)
Meat	...	...	...	77 lbs.	67 lbs.
Ham	...	...	...	—	678 „
Fish	...	...	...	112 „	28 „
Cheese	...	...	...	7 „	—
Milk	...	...	...	—	57 „
Fruits (various)	...	...	...	3 „	375 „
Vegetables (various)	...	...	...	—	91 „
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	82 „	2 „

Total weight of foodstuffs 14 cwts. 11 lbs.

### Ice Cream

There are 27 registered retailers of ice cream in the Borough, of which 4 manufacture their own, while 23 purchase ice cream from wholesalers outside the district.

Eighteen samples of ice cream were taken for examination for cleanliness and the results are shown below.

**Table 15**

Type of Ice Cream	Grade				Total.
	1	2	3	4	
Complete Cold Mix Unwrapped	1	—	—	—	1
Heat Treated (within the Borough) Unwrapped	—	1	1	—	2
Heat Treated (outside the Borough) Wrapped	5	2	1	—	8
Heat Treated (outside the Borough) Unwrapped	2	2	3	—	7
Totals ...	8	5	5	—	18

Seventy-two per cent. of the samples came within grades 1 and 2, both of which grades are regarded as satisfactory. (This compares with less than 50% during 1950). It would appear that wrapped ice cream is cleaner than loose ice cream, only one sample out of the eight taken being unsatisfactory. There was no case where samples were persistently bad.

It will be seen from Table 16 that two samples of ice cream were taken by the County Sampling Officer and both complied with the Ministry of Food standards as regards fat content, solids not fat, and sugar.

### **Bakehouses**

One bakehouse was closed during the year leaving 5 in the Borough. Regular inspections were carried out and several minor defects were remedied.

### **Catering and Licensed Trades**

One complaint concerning food was made to this Department. The shopkeeper concerned was interviewed and a full investigation proved no lack of care on his part.

Many minor improvements have been made to licensed premises and restaurants during the year. New applicants for catering licences are referred to this Department by the Ministry of Food before licences are granted. Full inspections are made of the premises concerned and alterations or improvements suggested where necessary.

### **Food Poisoning**

No cases of food poisoning were notified during the year.

### **Hygiene in Food Shops**

During the year the Council provided shopkeepers with notices requesting customers not to bring their dogs into food shops. The notices were much appreciated and undoubtedly had a good effect.

## Adulteration

Sampling of food, etc., for this purpose is undertaken by the County Weights and Measures Department, who have kindly supplied the following information as to the operation of the Act during 1951:—

**Table 16**

Food or Drug	No. of Samples		Genuine	Not Genuine	Remarks
	Formal	Informal			
Milk ...	12	23	32	3	One vendor notified
Pork Luncheon Meat	—	1	1	—	
Beef Suet ...	—	1	1	—	
Damson Jam ...	—	1	—	1	Slightly def. in soluble solids
Raspberry Jam ...	—	1	1	—	
Marmalade ...	—	1	1	—	
Orange Squash ...	—	2	2	—	
Sal volatile ...	—	2	1	1	Excess of ammon. carb
Sage and onion stuffing	—	1	1	—	
Fish Paste ...	—	1	1	—	
Canned Carrots ...	—	1	1	—	
Canned Peas ...	—	2	2	—	
Custard Powder ...	—	1	1	—	
Table Jelly ...	—	1	1	—	
Ice Cream ...	—	2	2	—	
Chocolate Roll with cream ...	—	1	1	—	
Chocolate Swiss Roll	—	1	1	—	
Mustard ...	—	1	1	—	
White Pepper ...	—	1	1	—	
Olive Oil ...	—	2	2	—	
Aspirin ...	—	4	4	—	
Totals ...	12	51	58	5	

The Chief Sampling Officer reports that in one case of an unsatisfactory sample of milk a further sample was taken from the same source and proved to be genuine. No further action was therefore taken.

Other deficiencies shown above, other than one sample of milk, were so slight that no further action was warranted.



# ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACTS 1937 and 1948

**Table 17**

## 1. Inspections for the purpose of provisions as to health

Premises	No. of Premises in Register	No. of Inspections	No. of Written Notices	No. of Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sect. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	10	12	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Sect. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	38	13	1	—
(iii) Other premises in which Sect. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers) ...	5	2	—	—
Total ...	53	27	1	—

**Table 18**

## 2. Cases in which defects were found

Particulars	No. of cases where defects were found				No. of cases in which Prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M.I.	by H.M.I.	
Want of cleanliness (S. 1)	3	3	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S. 2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temp.(S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Vent. (S. 4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6)	—	—	—	—	—
Latrines (S. 7)					
(a) insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective	5	5	—	2	—
(c) not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including Homework)	1	1	1	—	—
Total ...	9	9	1	2	—



**Table 19**  
**Outwork (Sections 110 and 111)**

Nature of Work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list as required	No. of cases of default in sending lists	No. of prosecutions for failure to sup'ly lists	Cases of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	—	—	—	—	—	—

**INFECTIOUS DISEASE**

Table 27 shews the incidence of notifiable Infectious Disease by age groups during the year. The total number of cases was only 44 compared with 350 notifications in 1950 when there was a measles epidemic.

**Diphtheria and Immunisation**

Tables 21–23 give details as to diphtheria immunisation. These are kindly given to me by the County Medical Officer of Health, as I think they are of interest to this Council.

The number of children receiving both primary and maintenance immunisations show a considerable increase on 1950, e.g. 133 primary immunisations compared with 53, and 91 maintenance compared with 30.

It is very satisfactory to note that there has been no case of diphtheria in the Borough since 1946.

**Smallpox and Typhoid**

No cases occurred and no contacts were notified as coming into the Borough and requiring supervision.

**Infantile Paralysis (Acute Polio-Myelitis)**

There was 1 case during the year ; this compares with 6 cases in 1950.

**Infectious Disease in Schools**

Table 20 shews the incidence of infectious disease according to returns submitted by the head-teacher. It will be seen that influenza was considerable in two schools; this was due to the country-wide epidemic in the early part of the year. This table is of interest as it shews the incidence of chicken pox, mumps and influenza which are not notifiable by General practitioners.

**Table 20**

School	Av'r'ge No. on Regis'r	Scarlet Fever	Mea'l's	Wh'ng Cough	Chi'k'n Pox	Mu'ps	'Flu	Diph.
Infants C. of E.	186	4	2	—	—	22	—	—
Junior C. of E.	157	1	7	—	—	9	—	1
Junior Council	178	3	2	—	1	1	—	—
Sec'dary M'd'n	349	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Girls High	150	3	4	—	—	—	26	—
Grammar	138	—	—	—	—	—	100	—
Total ...	1158	11	15	—	3	32	126	1

In accordance with the recommendation of the Joint Memorandum issued by the Ministries of Health and Education, it was not considered necessary to close any schools because of infectious disease.

### DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

**Table 21** Child Population immunised during 1951

No. of children who completed a full course of immunisation during 1951	Age at date of final injection		Total under 15 years
	0-5 years	5-14 years	
During half-year ending 30.6.51 ...	63	11	74
During half-year ending 31.12.51 ...	47	12	59
Total ...	110	23	133

**Table 22** Child Population receiving a maintenance dose during 1951 (i.e. a reinforcing dose a few years after the primary immunisation)

During half-year ending 30.6.51 ...	...	...	50
During half-year ending 31.12.51	...	...	41
Total	...	...	91

**Table 23** Diphtheria Notifications and Deaths in relation Immunisation (Children under 15 years only)

Notifications		Deaths	
Cases Notified	Cases Immunised	Immunised	Not Immunised
—	—	—	—

# TUBERCULOSIS

**Table 24      New Cases and Deaths in 1951**

Ages	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1—	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1+	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5+	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10+	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15+	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
20+	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
25+	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
35+	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
45+	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
55+	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
65+	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Age not known	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	4	6	...	...	...	...	...	...

**Table 25      Number of Cases on Tuberculosis Register as at 31st December for the last 3 years**

Year	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total	Per 1000 Population
	Male	Female	Male	Female		
1949	13	15	2	4	34	6.6
1950	13	13	2	4	32	6.1
1951	17	15	1	3	36	6.8

**Table 26      Number of New Cases and Deaths in the last 3 years**

Year	New Cases				Tot'l	Deaths				Tot'l
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary			Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		
	M	F	M	F		M	F	M	F	
1949	1	5	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—
1950	2	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	1
1951	4	6	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	—



## **Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations 1925**

### **Public Health Act 1936 (Section 172)**

No action has been necessary under the above Regulations and Act.

### **Re-housing of Tuberculosis Cases**

Of the total of 36 cases on the Tuberculosis Register 22 are living in Council houses. This is a very good proportion and shews that the Council is alive to the importance of good housing both in the cure and prevention of the spread of tuberculosis. If it is realised that a case of tuberculosis may easily cost the country over £1,000 in treatment, allowances, etc., it is clear that anything that can be done with regard to improved housing of cases will be of ultimate financial benefit to the taxpayer.

Table 27 NOTIFICATION OF INFECTION DISEASES IN 1951 BY AGE GROUPS

Disease	0-4	1-4	3-4	5-4	10-4	15-4	25-4	45-4	65-4	Age N.K.	Total	Cases to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	...	2	1	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	3	...
Whooping Cough	...	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	1	...
Ac. Polio-myelitis (P)	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...
Ac. Polio-myelitis (N.P.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ac. Polio-enceph.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningococcal Infection	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles (Exc. G. M.)	...	3	3	4	1	1	...	...	...	...	12	1	...
Diphtheria ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ac. Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	1
Dysentery ...	...	1	1	3	1	1	...	1	...	...	8	...	...
Small Pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ac. Inf. Enceph.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Para-typhoid Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...
Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dphth. Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Malaria (contr. E. W.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	...	10	8	19	2	2	...	3	...	...	44	7	1

## CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE DISTRICT IN 1951

Table 28 gives the causes of death in the Borough in accordance with the abbreviated list of 36 groups of the World Health Organisation Nomenclature Regulations, 1948.

**Table 28**

Causes of Death				Male	Female
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	...
2.	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	...
3.	Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	...
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...
5.	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...
6.	Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	...
7.	Acute Polio-myelitis	...	...	...	...
8.	Measles	...	...	...	...
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	...
10.	* Maglignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	...
11.	Maglignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	...
12.	Maglignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	...
13.	Maglignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	1
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	4	6	
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...	...
16.	Diabetes	...	...	...	...
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	5	3	
18.	Coronary disease, agina	...	4	...	
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	...	1	2	
20.	Other heart disease	...	8	7	
21.	Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	...
22.	Influenza	...	1	1	
23.	Pneumonia	...	1	...	
24.	Bronchitis	...	1	1	
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	...
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	1	...	
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	1	...	
28.	Nephritis and nephrosia	...	...	...	...
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	1	...	
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	...
31.	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	...
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	4	9	
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	1	
34.	All other accidents	...	...	2	
35.	Suicide	...	...	...	...
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	...
Total				32	33

EXPLANATORY NOTE : \* Neoplasm equals cancer.





